

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Nicaragua

DATE DISTR. 14 MAY 51

SUBJECT Activities of the Partido Socialista de Nicaragua (PSN) during March 1951

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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25X1A

1. Activities of the PSN during March 1951 were confined principally to labor matters. The PSN is gaining ground in this field as a result of persistent efforts to take over control of the doubtful syndicates. It is reported that the Sindicatos de Matarifes y de Transporte de Carne may soon shift from the Federacion Nacionalista to the Confederacion General del Trabajo (CGT). Nevertheless, the Communists are considerably worried over the success of the Nacionalistas in winning the support of the government, particularly the Ministry of Labor. They are also annoyed by the decision of Absalon Gonzalez Rodriguez, Secretary General of the CGT, and Manuel Centeno Rizo, member of PSN and CGT, to work in conjunction with the Federacion Nacionalista. It is feared that with the backing of the government the Nacionalistas may be able to break up the CGT completely.
2. In a meeting of the Executive Commission of the PSN on 2 March 1951 it was reported that Juan Loric, Secretary General of the PSN, is still seriously ill with typhoid fever. Manuel Perez Estrada, Press and Propaganda Secretary of the PSN Executive Commission, was therefore ordered to assume the direction of the party, and the district committees were notified of the change. It was decided to call a meeting of the Nueva Federacion de Trabajadores de Managua (NFTM) for 7 March, and 200 cordobas were appropriated to cover the expenses of bringing delegates from the far side of Lake Managua. The district committees were asked to inform all PSN-dominated syndicates that they should name representatives for the meeting.
3. The NFTM assembly was held as planned on 7 March. The principal subjects discussed were the proposed minimum-wage law and the new regulation concerning the naming of Juntas for the Casas del Obrero by the Ministry of Labor. Miguel Medina Valdivia, leader of the CGT, made the principal speech, and attacked the oppression of workers by the mining companies, "who continue to extract gold for the purposes of war and the enslavement of humanity." He said that all Nicaraguan mine employees are in sympathy with strikers at the Siuna mine, and that laborers on the Atlantic Coast are struggling for their existence. Plans were discussed for the recruiting of more syndicate members, and it was voted that a collection should be made for the printing and distribution of handbills condemning the law covering the manner of naming Juntas of the Casas del Obrero. It was agreed that the circulation of Voz Sindical should be increased, and that efforts should be intensified to clean up the debts of that paper.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

4. The assembly then proceeded to elect a new Executive Committee, composed as follows:

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| Secretary General                  | Miguel Medina Valdivia   |
| Recording Secretary                | Domingo Canacho  |
| Organization Secretary             | Domingo Vargas M.  |
| Financial Secretary                | Julio Cesar Varela   |
| Press and Propaganda Secretary     | Julian Centeno Rizo  |
| Secretary for Conflicts            | Pedro Turcios Ramirez  |
| Cultural and Educational Secretary | Francisco Bravo Lacayo   |
| Secretary for Rural Activities     | Toribio Mendoza  |
| Secretary for Youth Activities     | Mamuel Perez Estrada   |
| Adjustment Commission              | Napoleon Centeno, Rosa Coca,<br>Bernardo Otero U., Joaquin<br>Loaisiga, Ramon Suarez Rico,<br>and Albelardo Matus. |

All are PSN stalwarts with the exception of Mendoza, Loaisiga, and Matus, who appear for the first time in an official capacity. The meeting was closed with a condemnation of the United Nations for not maintaining the peace and not encouraging the emancipation of countries desiring their freedom. It was moved that all possible efforts be directed toward the goal of peace.

5. Another meeting of the PSN Executive Commission was held on 9 March, when it was decided to set the national congress of the CGT for 28 and 29 April. It was also agreed that an organizing convention for the proposed Federacion de Trabajadores de Matagalpa would be convened in that city on 15 April. A resolution was passed in which the meeting of American Foreign Ministers in Washington was labeled part of an imperialist plot to enslave the peoples of Latin America. It was proposed that the people of Nicaragua be informed of the maneuvers of their representatives in the service of foreign interests.
6. In an article appearing in Voz Sindical under the pseudonym of Agustin Romero on 10 March Manuel Perez Estrada bitterly attacked Libertad Sindical in Nicaragua. He commented upon the government aggression of which the CGT has borne the brunt, and said that "of course there exists unrestricted freedom for those sindicalistas whose only desire is to defend the interests of politicians and businessmen." He concluded that there is no syndical freedom for those workers of independent views who honestly desire justice and liberty for the people.
7. The new Junta of the Casa del Obrero of Managua assumed office on 10 March, and the PSN contingent at the meeting consisted of Humberto Cabuardi, Matilde Barreto, and Tomas Blanco. Tulio Tablada Garcia, at the request of PSN leaders, pleaded for a reconciliation of the warring labor factions, and in this stand he was seconded by Carlos Adan Espinoza. Tablada's speech was warmly received by the Communist sympathizers, but caused considerable resentment among the Nacionalistas.
8. Absalon Gonzalez Rodriguez left for Buenos Aires on 17 March at the invitation and expense of the Argentine Embassy. Gonzalez, though still nominally Secretary General of the CGT, has reportedly broken completely with the Communists. It is understood that he will attend a preliminary congress designed to organize a new Latin American workers confederation, under the auspices of the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Argentina. Source reports that the Nacionalistas have not decided to join any such organization, and that Gonzalez will attend simply as an observer. The Argentine Embassy has also reportedly asked for biographical information on Tulio Tablada Garcia, Arnoldo Silva, and Abel Garay Paniagua.
9. There was anxiety on the part of PSN heads concerning the imprisonment of the Salvadoran labor leaders who were expelled from El Salvador on 12 March, and relief was expressed when they were released from La Aviacion on 19 March. Source states that most of the Salvadorans are living in the Pension Rivas, including Julio Lemas, Cecilio Napoleon Villacorta, Julio Cesar Lopez, Luis Felipe Cativo, Eliseo R. Romero, Antonio Artiga, Jacinto Castellon Rivas, Jose Oscar Rico, and Carlos Alex Gomez. [REDACTED] and

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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-3-

the latter blamed the expulsion of the Salvadorans chiefly upon the efforts of Benjamin Mejia Martinez, who allegedly is in the service of the imperialists and who is reportedly heading a rightist labor movement in El Salvador. Gomez said that Mejia had accompanied the others as far as Somoto, and that he had then turned back toward Honduras. The PSN organized trips for the Salvadoran visitors on 21 and 23 March, and on the 22nd a lunch was given in their honor at the house of Octaviana Garcia. Through the efforts of Andres Murillo, Jr. whose father is now minister of the Distrito Nacional, three of the Salvadorans have obtained work with the Distrito, and efforts are being made to get jobs for others on the railroad.

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